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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

BLATT et al.

Serial No.: 09/509,738

Filed: March 30, 2000

Atty. File No.: 2186PB-1

For: "PROTEIN INVOLVED IN
ABSCISIC ACID SIGNALLING"

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

) Group Art Unit: 1653

) Examiner: Carlson, K.C.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

TYPED OR PRINTED NAME: KATHLEEN BUSSELL

SIGNATURE: Kathleen Bussell

Dear Sir:

This Amendment and Response is filed in response to the first Office Action having a mailing date of November 20, 2002. This response is believed to be timely and therefore, no fees are enclosed. In the event that fees are due in connection with this response, please debit Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

Please amend and reconsider the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, line 1, immediately following the title, please insert the following new paragraph:

P1 - This application claims the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 371 to PCT Patent Application No. PCT/GB98/02937, filed September 30, 1998, which designated the United States and was published in English, and which claims the benefit of foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 to Great Britain Patent Application No. 9720784.9, filed September 30, 1997. -

On page 2, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 20-21 with the following paragraph:

P2 - The features of the protein can be defined as follows with reference to SEQ ID NO:2. -

On page 2, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 29-30 with the following paragraph: